

Illustrated by Tommy Stubbs

### A Random House PICTUREBACK® Book

Random House All New York

Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends™

CREATED BY BRITT ALLCROFT

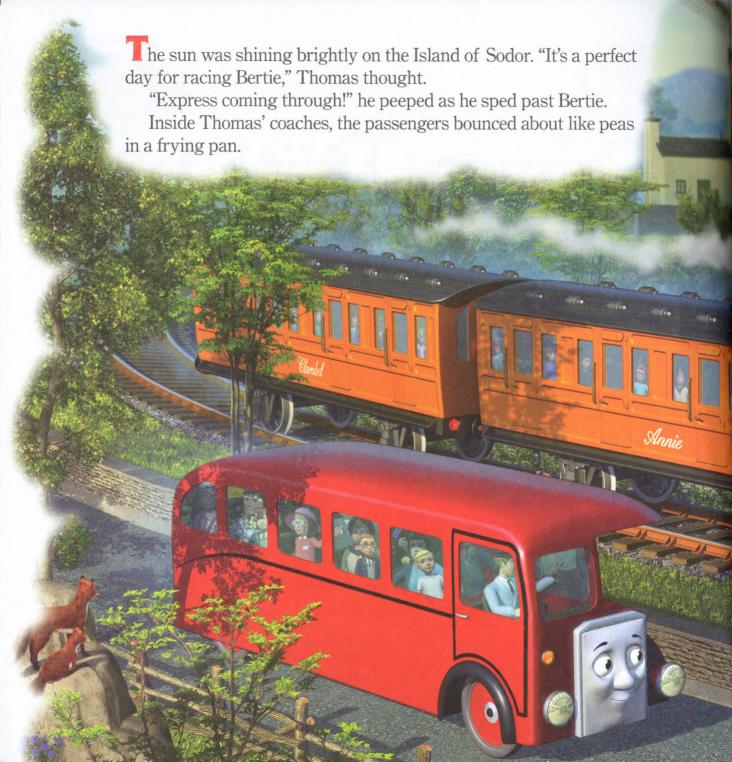
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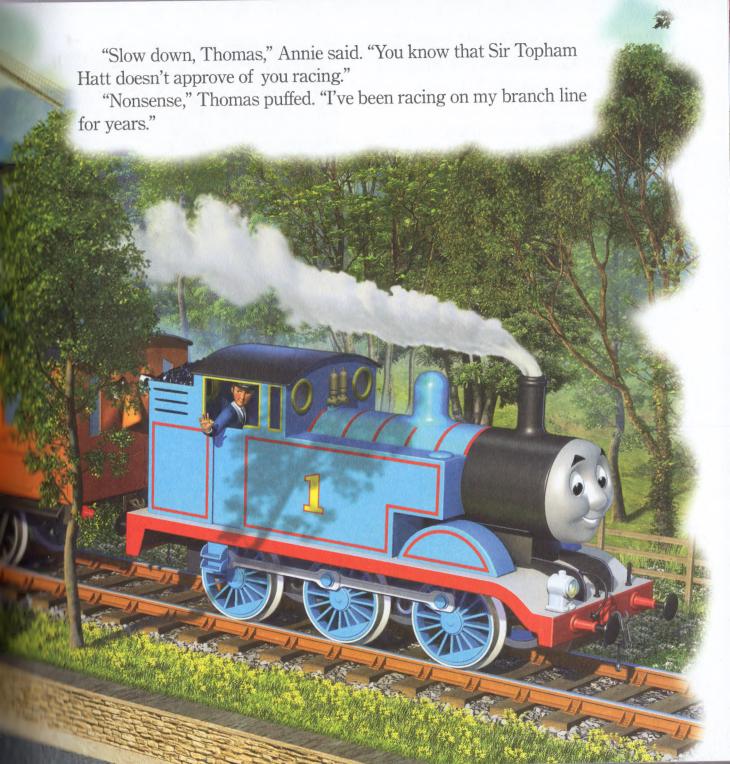
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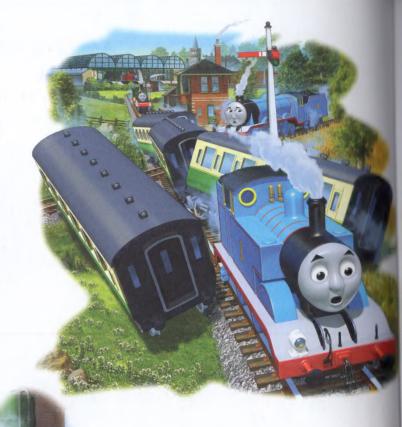




The next morning, Thomas was still in a racing mood. Instead of bringing Gordon his coaches, he sped off with the coaches himself.

Thomas raced past Gordon, pushing the coaches faster and faster.

Then—"Cinders and ashes!"
Thomas gasped, stopping suddenly at a red signal. The coaches flew off the tracks!



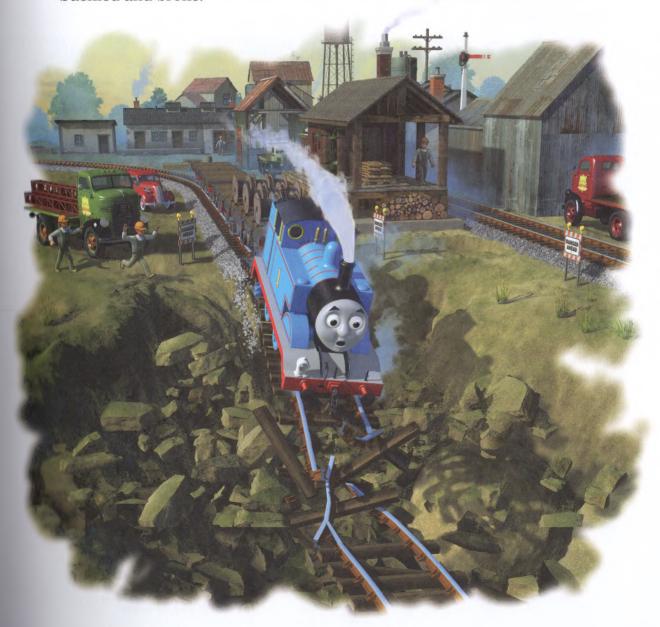
Sir Topham Hatt was not happy with Thomas. He sent him to work on the new branch line that was being built.

"But, sir," Thomas peeped. "What about *my* branch line?"

A new tank engine named Ryan rolled up. "I'll look after that line."

Thomas could not believe it!

Thomas went to work on the new branch line. There was danger at the construction site, but he didn't pay attention to the caution signs. Suddenly, the earth crumbled away beneath Thomas, and the tracks buckled and broke.



Thomas crashed down into a giant underground cavern.

"Fizzling fireboxes! Where am I?" he peeped.

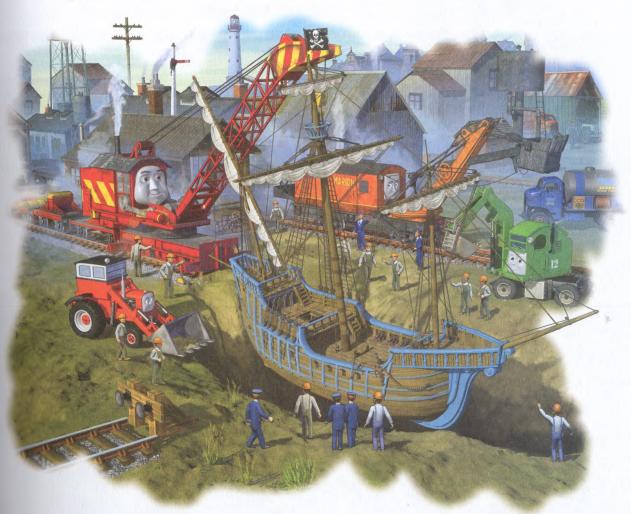
As Thomas looked around the cavern, he saw something amazing. There in front of him was an old pirate ship!



After Emily towed Thomas away for repairs, Rocky pulled the pirate ship up out of the cavern.

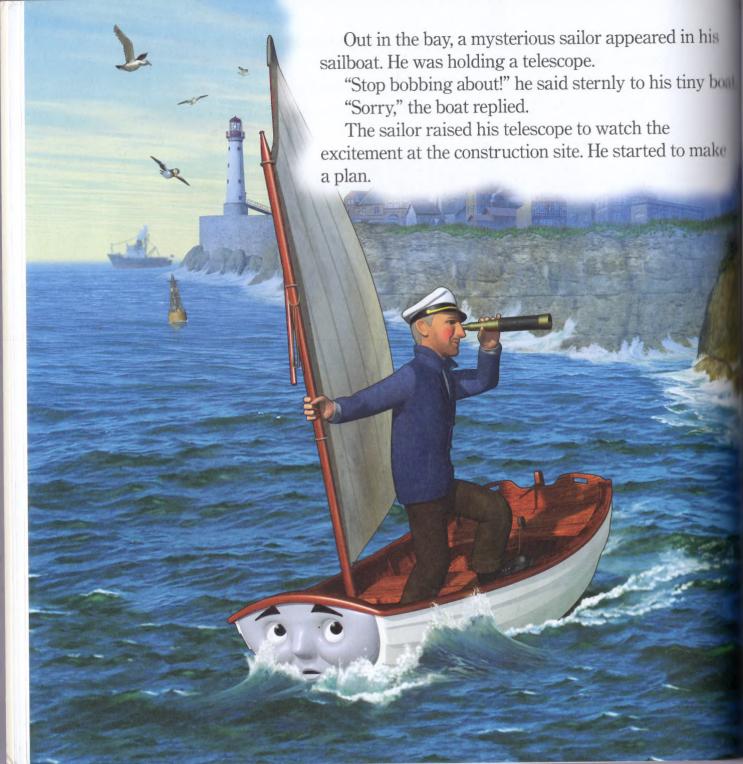
"How did that ship get in there?" Alfie asked.

Jack thought that someone had built it there, like a ship in a bottle.



"Nonsense!" puffed Donald. "There must have been a way to sail it in."

"If there's a buried pirate ship, there must be buried treasure, too!" Marion peeped.



That night, Thomas was feeling upset about Ryan, the new tank engine. So instead of sleeping at the sheds, he rolled to a siding. Suddenly, he heard rustling. He looked up and saw a ghost boat glowing in the dark!

Thomas followed the eerie boat. A ghostly figure stood on its deck.



The boat glided past the danger signs, right up to the edge of the hole that led into the cavern.

That's when Thomas realized it wasn't a ghost boat. "It's a man. And he's got wheels!"



Sailor John has found a treasure map! What will happen next? To find out, turn the book over and upside down, and continue reading. . . .



























































# Thomas and the Lost Dirate





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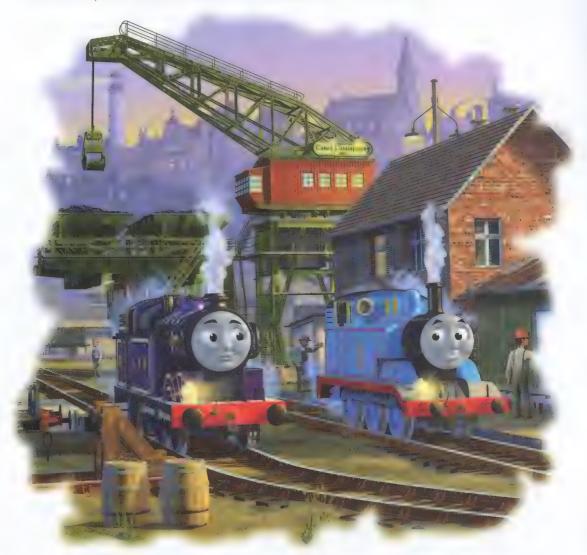
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The sun was rising as Thomas returned to the construction site. "Did I see you with a sailboat last night?" Ryan asked him.

"No, you did not," Thomas peeped.

"It must have been a dream," Ryan said.

Ryan filled up with coal at an old hopper. Thomas knew it was bad coal, but he didn't say anything. He was still annoyed with Ryan.



Later on, Ryan fetched some dynamite for the construction work. When he returned, his funnel was spitting sparks because of the bad coal. The sparks set the trucks with the dynamite on fire!



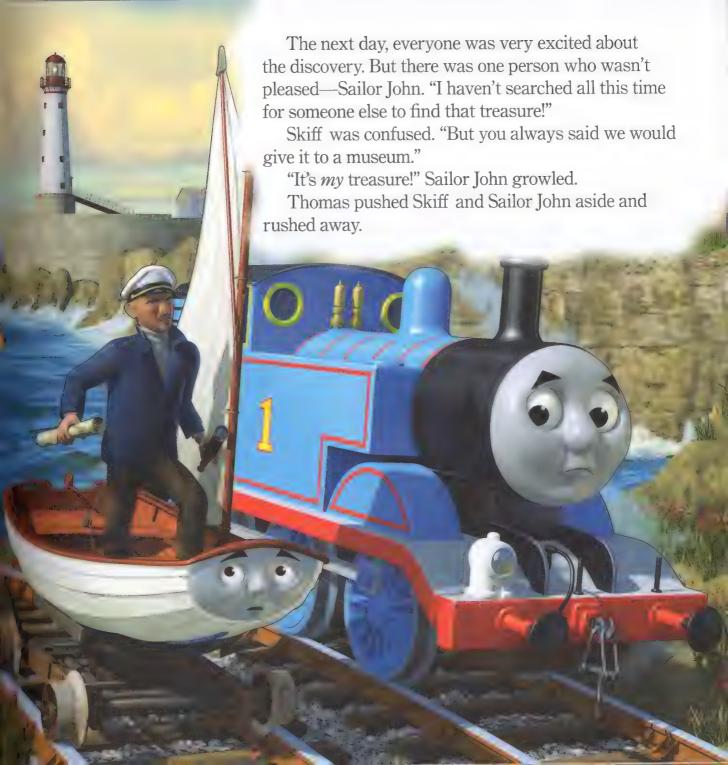
Thomas rushed to help. He tried to push the burning trucks out of the yard. In the confusion, the Signalman switched the tracks, sending Thomas toward the cavern.

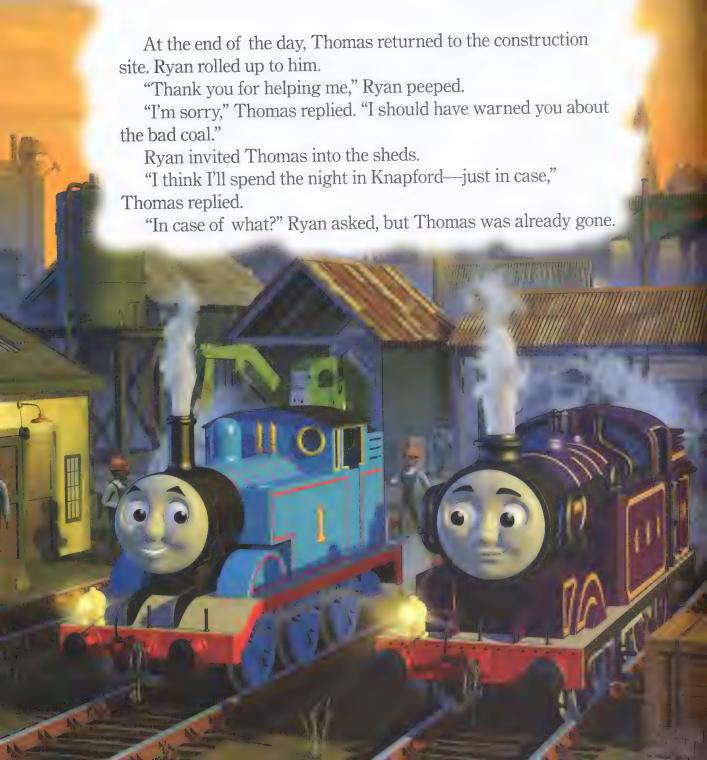
Thomas' brakes squealed as the trucks rolled into the huge hole. The dynamite exploded! *Blam! Bang! Kaboom!* 



Sir Topham Hatt was very upset. He ordered Thomas to stay in a siding for the rest of the day.

The other engines returned to work. The afternoon was quiet. Then, just as Marion scooped up one last shovelful of dirt—*CLUNK!* She found the buried treasure chest!





At Knapford Station, Thomas hid behind some sheds near Sir Topham Hatt's office, where the treasure was locked away in a safe. Eventually he fell asleep.

As he slept, Skiff and Sailor John rolled up to the platform. "I don't want any part of this," Skiff protested.

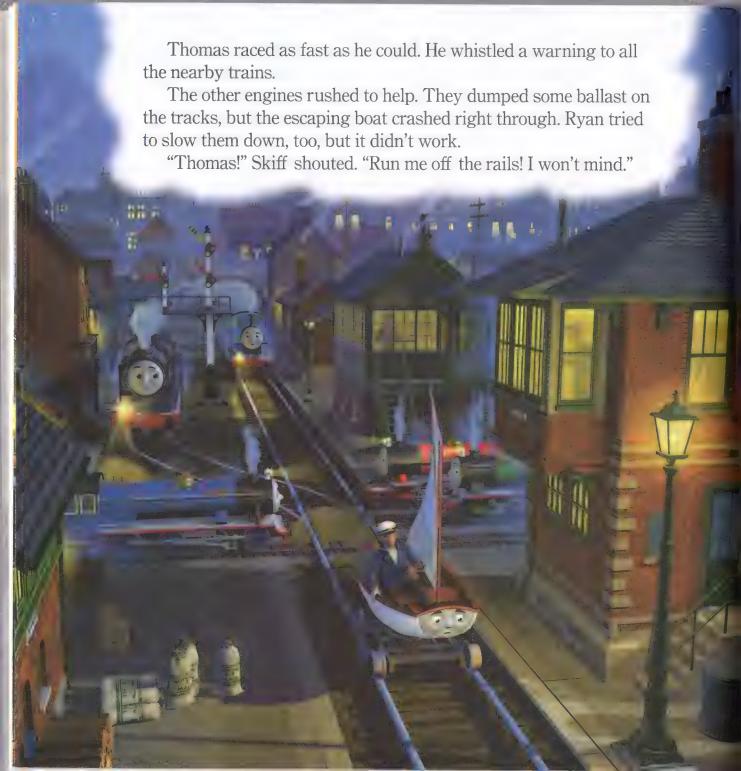
But Sailor John didn't listen. He wanted the treasure—and he took it!

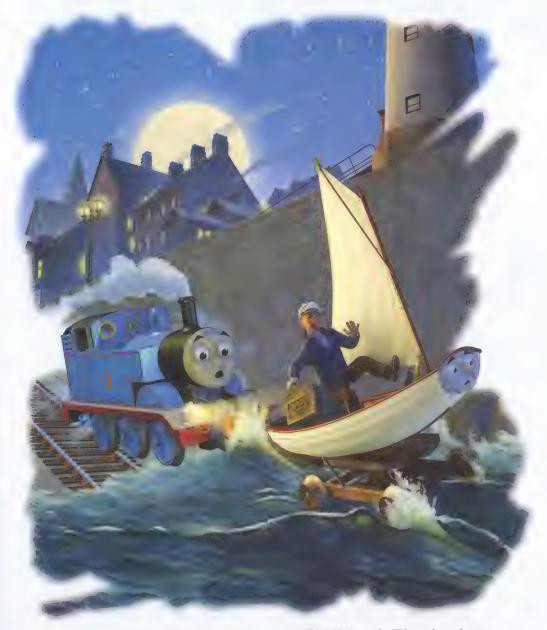


"Help!" Skiff cried. "Help!"

His cries woke Thomas. As Sailor John and Skiff raced off, Thomas chased them.

"You'll have to call me *Pirate* John from now on!" the sailor yelled with an evil laugh.





Thomas sped up and bumped Skiff hard. The tiny boat flew off the rails and splashed into the harbor.

Screeech! Thomas tried to brake, but he couldn't stop. He leaped off the rails and came to rest in the water.

Skiff rocked back and forth, taking on water.

"The treasure is too heavy!" he cried. "Throw it overboard, or we'll be sunk."

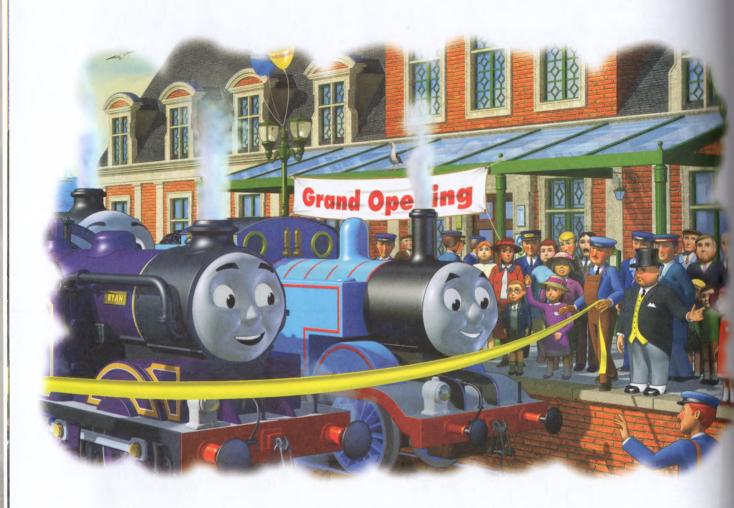
"No!" shouted Sailor John. "Sail on, I tell you!"

Skiff hit Sailor John with his boom and knocked him into the water. In the commotion, the treasure toppled overboard, too. It sank straight to the bottom.

The police soon arrived and took Sailor John away.







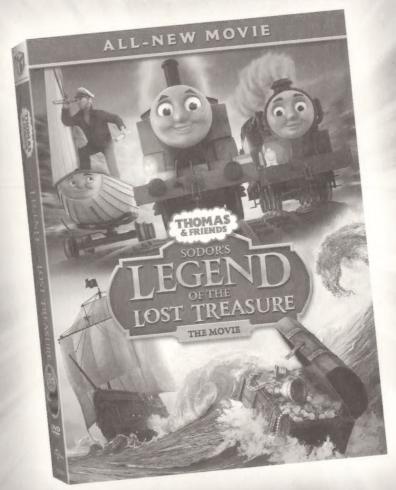
Divers rescued the treasure. It was delivered to the museum just in time for the completion of the new branch line.

Sir Topham Hatt was very proud. "Thomas, you are always my number one engine," he said. He let Thomas roll through and break the ribbon to open the line.

Thomas was happy to be a Really Useful Engine. He blew his whistle, and all the engines cheered.

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